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(54) **EMERGENCY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM INCORPORATING INTEGRAL PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO BRIDGING CAPABILITY**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** 455/404.1, 455/507, 521, 404.2; 370/285
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A communication system and method is provided for handling emergency situations wherein complex public safety radio systems can be used to directly communicate with normally incompatible radio systems used by organizations such as schools, hospital, and other facilities. The system includes a radio communication bridge that is selectively activated by emergency personnel to contact selected organizations. The bridge is activated via a TCP/IP command sent from an organization having activation privileges to the selected communication endpoints. Computer software or firmware installed at various communication endpoints, emergency responder locations, and at an emergency call center is used to facilitate functionality of the system to include emergency notifications, dissemination of information associated with a particular emergency, and the status of the system to include activation and deactivation of the radio bridge.

7 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets